Mark Goedde 2001 Grant Street Brentwood CA 94513

Aug 30th 2018

Via ECFS Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

## Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1

Dear FCC,

I purchased my home in Brentwood, CA specifically because I wanted Sonic Gigabit Fiber service. Without question their ISP offering is better than the competition. Their rates are more affordable vs. the competition and I haven't experienced a single outage for the 12 months I have been a customer. They bring real competition to the stagnant ISP market here in CA where two companies (ATT & Comcast) dominate residential areas. Interference with the free market will, without a doubt, stifle competition and put power back into the hands of the ISP giants. The same ISP giants who have been steadily increasing prices for service levels that have been left unchanged. Before moving to Brentwood, I was a longtime customer of Comcast, I did not have a better choice/option. The service was expensive and I could expect outages two or four times a year. Comcast throttles bandwidth and contains data limits (caps) within their service agreements.

Having Sonic's Gigabit service is crucial for my employment and ability to work remotely from home. My job requires me to upload or download big data files, something that would quickly eat up my data limit for the month if I were using a competitor's network. Transfer speeds would also suffer under the competition causing a significant slow down in work progress. If I were forced to switch back to Comcast, I would have less disposable income, work efficiency would drop, I would need to commute into work more often causing a drop in quality of life, and I would incur additional costs associated with driving more often(fuel/maintenance).

More competition is good for the consumer. We need more service providers like Sonic and we must allow for innovation and investment in the networks of tomorrow. Don't let the U.S.A.'s data/communications infrastructure lag behind the rest of the developed world. Please protect our entrepreneurs!

Mark Goedde